

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A system for calibration of an ultrasound transmitter and/or receiver, the system comprising:
at least ~~one of~~ an ultrasound transmit, ~~and-receive,~~ or transmit and receive path connected with a beamformer;
a first clipping diode connected with the path;
a first voltage source connectable with the first clipping diode; and
a first switch between the first clipping diode and the first voltage source;
wherein the first clipping diode and the first switch are separate from the path.
2. (original) The system of Claim 1 wherein the at least one of the ultrasound transmit and receive path comprises an ultrasound transmit and receiver path.
3. (original) The system of Claim 1 wherein the path comprises a conductor connected between an amplifier and a transducer.
4. (currently amended) A system for calibration of an ultrasound transmitter and/or receiver, the system comprising:
at least one of an ultrasound transmit and receive path;
a first clipping diode connected with the path;
a first voltage source connectable with the first clipping diode;
a first switch between the first clipping diode and the first voltage source, ~~The system of Claim 1~~ wherein the first voltage source comprises a positive voltage source;
~~further comprising:~~
a second clipping diode connected with the path;
a second voltage source comprising a negative voltage source, the second voltage source connectable with the second clipping diode; and
a second switch between the second clipping diode and the second voltage source.

5. (currently amended) A system for calibration of an ultrasound transmitter and/or receiver, the system comprising:
at least one of an ultrasound transmit and receive path;
a first clipping diode connected with the path;
a first voltage source connectable with the first clipping diode;
a first switch between the first clipping diode and the first voltage source
~~The system of Claim 1 further comprising:~~
a plurality of separate ultrasound paths including the at least one path; and
additional clipping diodes connectable in parallel with the first voltage source and
respective ones of the plurality of separate ultrasound paths;
wherein the first switch connects with each of the additional clipping diodes.
6. (original) The system of Claim 1 wherein the first switch comprises a double pole relay.
7. (original) The system of Claim 1 wherein the path comprises a transmit path;
further comprising:
an analog-to-digital converter connected with the first switch, the first switch operable to select between connecting the first clipping diode with the first voltage source for transmit operation and with the analog-to-digital converter for calibration operation.
8. (original) The system of Claim 1 wherein the path comprises a receive path;
further comprising:
a current source connected with the first switch, the first switch operable to select between connecting the first clipping diode with the first voltage source for receive operation and with the current source for calibration operation.
9. (original) A system for calibration of an ultrasound transmitter and receiver, the system comprising:

a plurality of transmit/receive ultrasound paths;
a plurality of pairs of clipping diodes, each of the pairs of clipping diodes connected with a respective one of the transmit/receive ultrasound paths;
a positive voltage source connectable with a first one of the clipping diodes of each pair of clipping diodes;
a negative voltage source connectable with a second one of the clipping diodes of each pair of clipping diodes;
a first switch between the first ones of the clipping diodes and the positive voltage source; and
a second switch between the second ones of the clipping diodes and the negative voltage source.

10. (original) The system of Claim 9 further comprising:
an amplifier having an input connectable with the first and second switches;
a resistor connected between the input and a ground; and
an analog-to-digital converter connected with an output of the amplifier.

11. (original) The system of Claim 9 further comprising:
a current source connectable with the first and second switches.

12-21. (cancelled)

22. (original) The system of Claim 4 further comprising:
first and second current sources;
wherein the first switch selectably connects the first clipping diode with one of the first current source and the first voltage source and wherein the second switch selectably connects the second clipping diode with one of the second current source and the second voltage source.

23. (original) The system of Claim 9 further comprising:

first and second current sources;
a transmit calibration circuit connected to a common node;
a receive calibration circuit connected to the common node;
wherein the first switch selectably connects the first one of the clipping diodes with one of the first current source and the positive voltage source; and
wherein the second switch selectably connects the second one of the clipping diode with one of the second current source and the negative voltage source, the second switch connectable with the common node.